

## THE IMPROVED SYRACUSE SOLID WATCH GLASS.

A. CLIFFORD MERCER, M.D., F.R.M.S., Syracuse, N. Y.

The original Syracuse solid watch-glass, described in the *Proceedings* of this society for 1884, on page 178, and shown here in Fig. 1, had the concavity of a watch-glass, a shallower concave

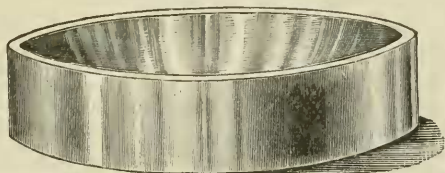


Fig. 1.

bottom and a solid mass of glass between. It was soon widely used in the microscopical laboratories of this country, and to a small extent in Europe.

Use has suggested improvements. The capacity has been increased. The new form makes a secure pile, Fig. 2, without the

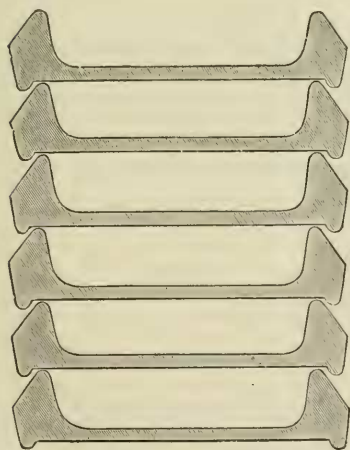


Fig. 2.  
(Cut two-thirds actual size)

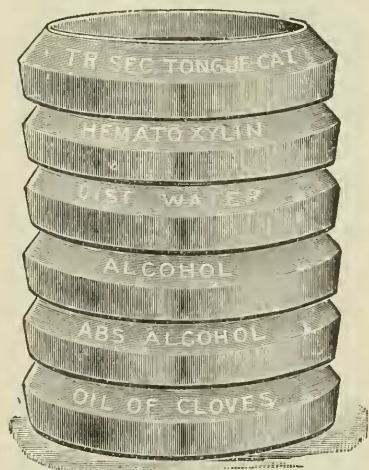


Fig. 3.  
(Cut two-thirds actual size.)

supporting frame required by the first form. All edges are rounded and are, therefore, less liable to be chipped. When the

rounded rims are accidentally wet they stick less than flat rims. With pencil or ink the user can write or print on the smoothly-ground bevelled surface, Fig. 3. The writing can be erased with a wet cloth. What is written on the ground surface can be seen when the user looks horizontally at or obliquely down upon the pile, or vertically down upon a single dish. To the same surface may be attached labels. When lifting a dish, a slight bevel given the surface just beneath that ground furnishes a better hold than the vertical surface of the first form. All the surfaces of the new form are more smooth.

Like the first form in other respects ; it rests solidly upon the table or microscope stage ; is not liable to be overturned and its contents spilled ; is transparent and can be used over black, white or colored paper, enabling the worker to use such backgrounds to his work as permit him to watch the progress of staining, washing and the like to best advantage. In it, on the microscope stage, can be examined from time to time, or dissected and studied, transparent tissues while in water, alcohol, oil of cloves or other bath, the worker being able to detect and reject unsatisfactory specimens at any step in the process of preparation. In it, when piled, specimens may remain for long staining or soaking without becoming dirty and with little or no loss of fluid by evaporation. It is useful on the stage of a dissecting microscope, and finds a place among the dishes of the bacteriologist. The new form is already widely known and used.